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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

*Memorandum*APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: JAN 2002(b)(1)
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(T)Supplement
toTHE CRISIS
USSR/CUBAInformation as of 1500
9 November 1962PREPARED FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
FURTHER DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION
CONTAINED HEREIN IS NOT AUTHORIZED.~~TOP SECRET~~19
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~~TOP SECRET~~1500 EST
9 November 1962SOVIET SHIPPING FROM CUBA

Information as of 1500 EST is that eight of the nine ships designated by Kuznetsov to remove missiles and associated equipment from Cuba were under way. The latest departure, the LENINSKY KOMSOMOL, departed Casilda at 0935 this morning with eight canvas-covered missile transporters on deck. The IVAN POLZUNOV, earlier thought to have left port, is still loading at Mariel according to our latest information.

Seven of the ships now under way are carrying a total of 37 canvas-covered missile transporters. We assume that the 5 missiles remaining of the 42 admitted by Kuznetsov to be in Cuba will be loaded on the IVAN POLZUNOV.

The eighth ship under way is not carrying missiles. Two other ships in addition to those named by Kuznetsov are also being used to remove missile-associated equipment.

[REDACTED]

The verification procedures being followed are for US naval craft to come alongside for visual inspection of the deck cargo. If necessary, and in most cases this is being done, overhead photographs are being taken from helicopters. The Soviets are required to remove the outer canvas covering the missiles but are not being asked to remove the inner rubber cover. The Soviet ships are not compelled to stop and US naval forces are not boarding the Soviet ships.

The status of these operations has been reported to us as follows:

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LABINSK -- The USS NEWPORT NEWS and LEARY came alongside at 0730 EST this morning; a helicopter from the NEWPORT NEWS took photographs. Visual sighting of two missiles, without nose cones, was reported. The mission was completed at 1143 EST and the LABINSK was informed that she could proceed and would not be trailed by US naval ships.

BRATSK -- A helicopter from the WASP was overhead at 0736 EST this morning and probably took photographs. The canvas covers were removed from two apparent missiles. Several vehicles were also noted on deck. At 1113 EST the US destroyer BASILONE came alongside and is now trailing the BRATSK.

LENINSKY KOMSOMOL -- The LENINSKY KOMSOMOL was sighted departing Casilda at 0735 EST this morning. The NORFOLK proceeded at that time to close in to take photographs. At 1052 EST the NORFOLK reported that there were eight canvas-covered missile transporters on deck. Photographs were taken at 1140 EST. The NORFOLK is now trailing alongside.

DIVNOGORSK -- The USS BLANDY was alongside the DIVNOGORSK this morning and took photographs. The canvas covers were removed but the inner rubber covers were not. At 0855 EST the BLANDY reported that her mission was completed and that photographs had been taken showing four canvas-covered missile transporters. The BLANDY is remaining within radar range.

VOLGOLES -- The US destroyer VESOLE was within 75 yards of the VOLGOLES at 0830 EST this morning. At 0930 the canvas had been removed from seven apparent missiles. At 0935 EST the VESOLE reported mission completed and she is now proceeding alongside the VOLGOLES.

ALAPAEVSK -- The ALAPAEVSK was photographed late yesterday afternoon. The photographs have been disseminated in Washington and show about 180 - 200 men on deck and cots and blankets in the hold. When challenged, the ALAPAEVSK reported that she had "rocket technicians" on board, presumably meaning rocket technicians. The destroyer HOLDEN closed in on the ALAPAEVSK at dusk on 8 November and is still with her.

METALLURG ANASOV -- US naval ships reported that they were in the vicinity of this ship at about 1300 EST today. Previous photography shows that she is carrying eight canvas-covered missile transporters on deck.

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FIZIK KURCHATOV -- The ship departed Casilda on 7 November with six canvas-covered missile transporters on deck and was photographed while passing Guantanamo on the same day. She was proceeding at full speed of 18 knots. The USS BIDDLE has been chasing her and reported at about 1230 EST that she was within radar range.

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